

Individualized Supported Employment (ISE) Work Group Summary Report – December, 2010

In February, 2010, in response to budget rescissions, DDS initiated attendance based reimbursement for all DDS funded day programs. Independent Supported Employment Services (ISE) was immediately and obviously adversely impacted by the attendance-based, fee for service system. Commissioner O'Meara agreed to cap ISE losses at 2% pending the recommendations of a work group addressing more appropriate rates and fees to better suit the complexities of the ISE model.

The Individualized Supported Employment (ISE) work group consisting of representatives from the private provider community and DDS has been meeting since that time to develop a mechanism to support providers in their effort to create real work for real pay opportunities for people with intellectual disabilities.

The committee began by reviewing the current trends in ISE programs. The work group gathered initial information on the supports provided to people at various stages of the job search process as well as those receiving ongoing support. The framework of an ISE rate was developed with the following components:

- Intake (for participants new to ISE only): calculated in 15 minute increments
- Job Search/Assessment: calculated in 15 minute increments
- Placement Fee (one time payment “event”)
- Participant Working Rate: calculated in hourly increments
- Intensive Training/Support/Follow Along: calculated in 15 minute increments
- Retention Incentive Fee: single payments

A survey has been sent to all ISE providers to collect the necessary information to identify the time expended on various activities that make up the tasks involved in the hiring of individuals into a community work setting. The information is currently being analyzed and the committee expects to make final recommendations for a new rate structure at the beginning of 2011.